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PHOENIX

**Student
Newspaper**

INSIDE

9/11 Remembrance
.....pg.4

Winner of the
"Name the
newspaper" contest
.....pg.4

Robin Williams Stars
in *One Hour Photo*
.....pg.5

Busted Stuff, a bit
Under Prepared
.....pg.5

Psychology
Convention Teaches
Students About
Careers
.....pg.7

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Student Fees Increased Despite Referendum



Photo by Robert Wysocki

Keitha Berly casts her vote in the student referendum as Student Life employee Tiffany Braxton looks on.

By Kathleen Frossard and
Carole Sharwarko

On September 4 and 5, voting on the Governors State University Student Fees Referendum took place in the GSU Cafeteria. Students voted on the nine-

dollar increase of the mandatory fees as well as a new ten-dollar per credit hour (up to twelve hours) Strategic Academic Enhancement Fee.

Executive Director of Student Life Lorraine Sibbet explained the need behind the increase in fees. "The fees have not increased in the last 12 years, while the cost of living has increased," she said. "We are trying to do the same level of activities with unequal monies."

In addition, the university is trying to enhance and upgrade various programs and areas of involvement while facing a lower than expected student population and, as a result, lower tuition.

Administration officials attempted to inform and educate the student body about the fees increase in a Student Forum on September 3. At the forum President Stuart Fagan and Interim Director

of Budget Jeff Slovak explained that the stagnant Illinois economy, coupled with a planned mid-year budget cut, led to the need for an increase in fees and tuition.

Students turned out at the voting table to show their disapproval of the proposed fee increases.

"The highest number of students participated in voting (in this referendum) than in any other vote held in recent years," said Sibbet. However, only seven percent of eligible voters took part in the referendum vote.

Of the 376 votes cast, 37.5 percent were in favor of the mandatory fee increase while 62.5 percent were against. Nearly three-fourths, or 72.8 percent, of students voted against the Strategic Academic Enhancement Fee, while 26.3 percent voted in favor.

Toure Peck, a GSU stu-

dent and the school's IBHE-SAC representative, said, "I was in support of it for one. We could use the money for certain areas of the school."

Peck's view was echoed by members of the Student Senate. According to Sibbet, an e-mail vote concerning the referendum was held.

"Ten out of 16 responded," she said. "There were ten positive votes for increasing both fees." The voting senators were 100 percent behind the proposed increases.

Ultimately, the student referendum is not binding. It is only a sort of barometer to gauge the students' opinions. That information is forwarded to the board of trustees and they have the final vote on the increase in fees.

However, students must be consulted before fees are increased. University regulations provided by Diana

See FEES, next page

Wooden Natives Invade E-Lounge

By Zach Donaldson

If you happen to be in E-lounge and see two fifteen foot tall gray loincloth-clad headhunters glaring down at you, don't worry, you will make it to your next class alive. That's because these two figures will be the first pieces in a projected art and culture gallery in the E-lounge. Dr. Arthur Bourgeois, who has taught art history at Governors State University for 26 years, plans to convert the northeast corner of the area into a multicultural display of sculpture and artwork that has been donated to the university in his tenure.

The two headhunters are carved wooden support poles from a men's ritual house (called a tabaran) from the Iatmul tribe of Papua New

Guinea. One was donated to the university by a collector from Bloomington, Indiana, John Adler; the other was purchased by an acquaintance of Bourgeois and will be here on indefinite loan. Made in the 1930s, the poles have what Bourgeois called a "nourishment motif". Each pole has a clan elder on one side, and his wife on the other, with crocodiles and pythons interspersed to illustrate the Iatmul creation myth.

A representative from the Field Museum in Chicago will travel to GSU to examine the poles, and will advise the university on how to conserve and display the poles.

Bourgeois intends to use the Iatmul poles as the cornerstones of an exhibition of artwork and sculptures that have

been donated to the university over the years. There will be display cases and plaques describing each work, some of which will include donations by students. The works on display will cover a wide range of cultures, though most of the donations come from Africa and the South Pacific.

Bourgeois sees the upcoming changes as a great way to show the myriad of cultures that make up the student and faculty population. "I want it to reflect the diversity of GSU's student body, and to show everyone where we come from as a university."

The poles will not be erected until they can be restored. For more information about the poles or the proposed E-lounge gallery, contact Bourgeois.



Courtesy of Dr. Arthur Bourgeois

\$1.3 Million Government Grant Funds Foster Care Project

By Robert Gray

GSU is undertaking a \$2.7 million project to help foster parents take required classes without having to travel. A course has been created called, "Foster Care Pride," which is focused on helping foster parents get or maintain their required certification online.

Many of these parents are unable to get child care for their children in order to allow them time to attend classes. Charles Nolley, director of Communication Studies at GSU, pitched the idea to the U.S. Dept. of Education, calling for them to find a project that would enable certified foster parents to complete their courses without having to travel long distances. Instead, the parents would be able to take the classes over the computer and either mail, fax or email their work to a trained teacher.

The Dept. of Education agreed that the idea served a good purpose and awarded the school a \$1.3 million Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education. At the time, the Dept. of Education was searching for a program that would be beneficial and serve a purpose, while using new technology.

GSU accepted the challenge and began working on a project that would allow foster

parents to take courses from their home. The task is being headed by Tony Labriola, and Emmy-award winning producer Yvette Brown.

The programs, which are still being worked out, consist of 10 modules. Each module has three sessions of computer material equal to the same amount of time they would spend in a classroom. Every module created has to go through great inspection by the Illinois Dept. of Children and Family Services and the Child Welfare League of America. They make sure the modules follow closely with the classroom procedures that the parent would typically take in order to maintain their certification as foster parents.

Foster parents have to go through a certain amount of hour of instruction each year in order to remain certified. Hours vary from state to state. Although only module five has been completed, it has great support from producer/designer Brown who says she cannot wait to start production on the next module.

GSU started the project last year and is now awaiting feedback for module five, which is under a trial run in Texas. If it is successful they will continue to produce more modules. For more information, visit www.govst.edu/fpdc.

GSU Celebrates Hispanic Culture

By Dawn Ladislav

Hablas Espanol? If you know that means, "Do you speak Spanish?" maybe you're familiar with Hispanic culture. There are 25 million Hispanics in the United States, according to the 2000 census, and the numbers are growing. Chances are someone you know is Hispanic. For some, Hispanic Heritage Month is new.

For those unfamiliar with it, Hispanic Heritage Month is Sept. 15- Oct. 15. It celebrates the countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua all receiving their independence on Sept. 15, 1821, after 300 years of Spanish rule. Mexico received its independence on Sept. 16, 1810; Chile did as well on Sept. 18, 1818.

To celebrate this, the

Hispanic Program coordinators at Governors State University has scheduled many fun events throughout the month. They are Marlene Castellanos, Admissions Counselor and advisor for ALAS (Association of Latin America Students); Jose Reyes, Director for Project H.O.P.E (Hispanic Opportunities Program Enhancement); and Lorraine Sibbet, Executive Director of Student Life.

On Sept. 6, flags were hung from all 23 of the Hispanic countries in the Hall of Governors. That day, Mariachi band "Angeles de Puebla" ("Angels of the Town") performed from 5-6pm in Hall of Governors. That was only the beginning. On Wednesday, Oct. 2, the movie "Tortilla Soup", starring Raquel Welch and Hector

Elizondo, was shown. If you liked "Vanilla Sky," starring Penelope Cruz, then you would like the Spanish film from which it was adapted: "Abre Los Ojos" ("Open Your Eyes"), featured on October 3, starring Cruz also. It was shown in Spanish with subtitles. Both movies were shown at 12 pm and at 3 pm with free popcorn.

Like music? On Oct. 9, at 7 pm "Amigos de Dios Marimba Ensemble" will perform. And on Oct. 14 from 12-2 pm "Salsa Merengue" will dance. Audience participation is welcome. Both the musical and dance performances will all be in Engbretson Hall.

All events are free, and funded by student life. For further information, call extensions 7059, 6972 or 4555.

Fees,

From front page

Kronika, Assistant to General Council, state, "Any proposal to establish or change the amount of any other mandatory fees shall be subject to a student referendum."

The result of the referendum was presented to the board of trustees on the September 13 meeting.

"Both the president and the board members were concerned about the student opinion," Slovak said.

In the meeting, the board members voted in favor of the Mandatory Student Fee increases as well as the proposed

Strategic Academic Enhancement Fee. The board also increased tuition for undergraduates by six dollars a credit

hour and for graduates by seven dollars a credit hour.

Peck theorized that students were not in favor of the referendum because, "it means money out of their pockets, or they don't have it," he said.

The shaky economy has also affected students. Financial aid programs for students have also faced budget cuts. The Illinois Monetary Assistance Program, which is the main source of financial aid for many students, has all but been eliminated.

"It is only natural for students to be concerned about the cost of their education," Slovak said. However, he says, the board of trustees "believed that the financial situation of the university and the state requires us to move ahead on this."

At the board of trustees meeting, there was overwhelming support for the fee and tuition increases. After a three-hour closed executive session, the board resumed to

vote unanimously toward the fee increases.

"I want the public to know that there was a nice battle in committee about raising tuition and the other (fees)," said board member Harry Klien. "I for one thought we should have increased them a little more because of the problems we have and then next year when the (budget) report we receive is going to be as bad or worse."

Klien expressed his attempt to try and boost the increases a bit more. However, he was not successful in swaying the other board members.

"I can honestly tell you," he said,

"Both the president and the board members were concerned about the student opinion."

- Jeff Slovak

"from the president down, they shut me up." Jack Beaupre, finance and budget committee director, explained

the new Strategic Academic Enhancement Fee to the board. "It's to help us do those things that relate to our strategic plan," he said. "They are generally undefined, but relate to providing more services to students, better scholarship opportunities, and career counseling and job development centers."

According to Fagan, the uses of the new fee would be discussed in advance with the Student Senate. "We would come to some agreement about what the revenue from this fee would be used for on an annual basis," he said.

He stressed the need for better communication with the student body. Also, he mentioned the need for better career placement for students. These are suggestions for uses of the new fee.

The tuition and fee increases, along with the new Strategic Academic Enhancement Fee, will take effect for enrollment in Winter trimester.

Professional Childcare Provided for GSU Students

By Shadrick Spies

GSU will unveil its Family Development Center for childcare in early October. The new building was constructed to provide childcare for university students and local residents.

Susan Kinsey, director of the College of Education said she hopes "the family Development Center serves as a model for teaching prep classes for children (up to) age 12."

The \$6 million childcare center will be open to children age five to 12 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There will be a \$10 per day charge with an optional \$5 extended-stay fee until 7:45 p.m.

Funding for the Center came from many sources. An Early Childhood Block Grant

helped finance the project. Other funding came from the Harris Foundation of Chicago, and GSU's Student Life area. Fees for care it will provide will also help pay for the Family Development Center.

The Family Development Center will not only serve as a childcare provider but also help parents adjust to their new babies. The Center's "Smart Start" program involves visiting new parents in the hospital and helping them connect with their newborn.

The Center will also be offering parent/child playgroups, parent teaching and half-day pre-kindergarten classes for children age three to five. Later in 2003 the Center hopes to open an infant/toddler after school program for children age six

weeks to two years.

"Seminars on teaching parents how to be parents and other Parent/teacher meetings take place in the parent education room," said Project Specialist Susan Rakstang.

The building was designed by the Ross, Barney, and Jankowski architectural firm of Chicago. This company has designed other buildings such as pre-schools, grammar schools and daycare centers in the area.

Lombard Construction Company, a Chicago-based firm, constructed the building. There are a total of five other contractors working on the project. The electrical work was done by Excel Electric. The mechanical labor was handled by Amber Mechanical and Ortiz Mechanical. Dawn

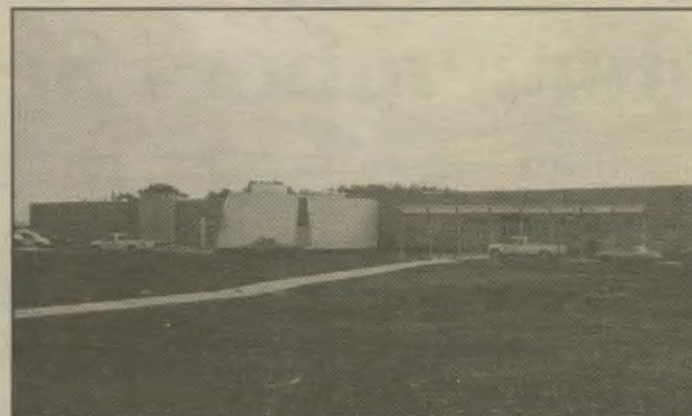


Photo by Robert Wysocki

The Family Development Center was designed by the Ross, Barney, and Jankowski Architectural Firm.

Plumbing installed the plumbing and McDaniel Fire Protection conducted the fire safety checks.

The Center's three classrooms are on the south side of the building, while the teachers' offices are located in the north section. The classrooms are set up with viewing sta-

tions in each room for parents and teachers to observe the children playing and learning. These stations are in the classrooms enclosed by glass. There will be a media center that will have a mini-library, along with computers. The round structure in front is the "gross motor room," or gym.

Building Designed to Accommodate Faculty Needs

By Tamasha Connell

The clouds of dust around campus may be an annoyance for some, but for faculty members and students, they are a long-awaited improvement to GSU. After years of faculty members being crammed into tiny cubicles of space, the faculty at GSU will finally have a comfortable place to call their office.

The construction of the Faculty Office Center is one of the newest developments to campus. With the anticipated completion date in April 2003, both the faculty and students of GSU can expect a much more comfortable learning environment.

The \$15.7 million, 67,000 square foot, three-story, concrete, steel and glass structure is designed primarily for faculty and administrative offices, but includes floor plans for conference rooms, faculty computer labs and break rooms.

"Governors State faculty members have faced a number of problems related to their office space for over 30 years," says Susan Rakstang, university architect and project specialist. "We hope they will take a positive perspective on moving into a facility created to meet the deficiencies they find in their current environment." Rakstang added that some of those deficiencies include poorly lit areas, security issues, limited privacy and the inability to control their heating and cooling environment.

According to Rakstang, the architectural firm Ross, Barney, and Jankowski, who was selected to design the office space, specifically addressed these issues during their design phase.

"The new offices will be well lit, have operable windows, individual heating and cooling controls as well as floor to ceiling demising walls. These features will give occupants con-

trol of their environment and the privacy they lack in their current office spaces, as well as be accessible to persons with disabilities," Rakstang said.

While these issues may seem like a good enough reason to construct the new facility, some students are not easily convinced the construction will benefit them.

"It seems odd that just recently there were rumors of GSU having money problems and not being able to hire more professors and now all of a sudden there is all this money to build a new faculty building," says JaNina Jones, a student in the College of Business and Administration. "I mean, it just makes me wonder if next semester I'll see an increase in student fees because of this construction."

While funding may be the overall concern for some, Susan Rakstang quickly laid speculations to rest.

"Approximately four years



Photo by Robert Wysocki

Faculty will now have windows in their offices and will be able to control the temperature themselves.

ago the state legislature appropriated construction funds to the Capital Development Board earmarked for Governors State University's Faculty Office Center." Capital Development Board is the state construction agency responsible for all capital-related new construction and renovation projects built in the State of Illinois. They function as the fiscal and project management authority for the entire Faculty Office Center project.

According to Rakstang, "no student fees or grants were part of any funding sources in the construction of the Faculty Office Center." The construction of the new facility will not only benefit

faculty members, but will also give the students something to look forward to. The faculty will be all in one place. The vacated space will be able to be utilized. The Capital Development Board has selected LCM Architects to plan, design and prepare construction documents for the spaces vacated by the faculty.

These plans will include the design of a new science lab and renovation of both the E and F wings. The consolidation of the faculty offices into one central location will also eliminate student's constant traveling to and from various wings to visit with different instructors will be a thing of the past.

University Community Remembers Sept. 11

More than 60 members of the GSU community gathered in the Hall of Governors on Sept. 11 in order to remember the terrorist attacks that took place one year prior. Standing in a great circle and holding hands, they listened to Pres. Stuart Fagan give a brief address.

Standing next to a table adorned by a candle wreathed in red, white and blue cloth, Fagan urged the crowd to remember the emergency workers and families whose lives were changed that day. He also asked a solemn crowd to remember that life has purpose. Fagan stopped to light the candle, saying, "I light this candle



for all of us in memory of those who sacrificed and were sacrificed on 9/11."

The ceremony was deliberately brief, and at the end, PPO worker Keith Briggs sang his a cappella version of Barbara Striesand's "I Believe/You'll Never Walk Alone," from the musical Carousel.

A large television remained in the Hall of Governors throughout the day, broadcasting the remembrance ceremony from the site of the attacks in New York City. Also, photographic pieces of the World Trade Center towers taken by GSU Professor of Photography Paul Schranz.

Many Entries, One Winner Phoenix Chosen as Newspaper's Name

By Carole Sharwarko

Robert Wysocki submitted the name "Phoenix" and won the Name the Newspaper contest. Wysocki lives in Lemont. His hobbies include snowboarding, photography, kayaking and traveling on his motorcycle. He's president of the GSU Applied Psychology Club.

He will be graduating from Governors State University at the end of the Summer 2002 trimester with a BA in Psychology with a Mental Health concentration. He is enrolled in the GSU honors program. His long-term goal is to apply to a PhD program at Northern Illinois University after he receives his MA in psychology.

Since submitting the entry and winning the \$100 prize, he has also become the Phoenix's photographer. He believes "Phoenix" is a good name for the newspaper because of the myth attached.

According the Phoenix, Arizona, website, "The phoenix bird symbolizes immortality, resurrection and life after death. In ancient Greek and Egyptian mythology, it is associated with the sun god.

"According to the Greeks, the bird lives in Arabia, near a cool well. Every morning at dawn, the sun god would stop his chariot to listen to the bird sing a beautiful song while it bathed in the

well.

Only one phoenix exists at a time. When the bird felt its death was near, every 500 to 1461 years, it would build a nest of aromatic wood and set it on fire. The bird then was consumed by the flames.

"A new phoenix sprang forth from the pyre. It embalmed the ashes of its predecessor in an egg of myrrh and flew with it to Heliopolis, 'city of the sun,' where the egg was deposited on the altar of the sun god. In Egypt, it was usually depicted as a heron, but in the classic literature as a peacock or an eagle."

The GSU Phoenix congratulates Wysocki on winning and thanks him for the appropriate name.



Robert Wysocki is pictured here with Kim Sanders, Applied Psychology Club vice president.

News Briefs

Open Houses

The university's general open house is Saturday, Nov. 2, 2002. The agenda for the open house is as follows.

- Registration from 9:30 am until 10 am
- Opening remarks and overview of the day 10 am to 10:30 am
- Concurrent sessions for undergraduate studies and graduate studies from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Student Affairs and Services fair from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Financial Aid presentation from 10:30 am to 11 am
- Transfer workshop 11 am to 11:30 am (undergraduates only)
- A complimentary box lunch will immediately follow.
- To confirm your attendance, contact Admissions at (708) 534-4490

College of Business and Public Administration offers M.B.A., M.S.-MIS, M.S.-ACCT, M.P.A. degree programs. For more information, visit the open house on Saturday, October 19. Registration and breakfast is from 8 am to 9 am. The program is from 9 am to noon. RSVP by Oct. 14 to 708-534-7051 or BPA-RSVP@govst.edu (e-mail)

The Physical Therapy Dept. is having an open house on Oct. 17 from 4 pm to 8 pm in F-1669.

Attendees will learn about the physical therapy program and the university in general, meet the faculty, tour the facility and obtain advice on applying to our program. Refreshments will be served. In order to attend, contact Mary Adler at (708) 534-7290.

Free Computer Workshops at the University Library

The Library is offering free workshops in EXCEL, PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, FrontPage and Web Page Composer. They are also giving instruction on basic web browsing. Place your reservation at (708) 534-2227 or l-ref-ere@govst.edu. The sessions are open to students, faculty, staff and community members. Only ten participants will be allowed for each session.

OCTOBER 11

- Beginning Web Browsing, 1-2 pm
- Beginning Microsoft Word, 2-3 pm
- Web Page Composer, 3-4 pm
- Beginning EXCEL, 4-5 pm

OCTOBER 18

- PowerPoint, 1-2 pm
- Beginning Microsoft Word, 2-3 pm
- Web Page Composer, 3-4 pm
- Beginning EXCEL, 4-5 pm

OCTOBER 25

- PowerPoint, 1-2 pm
- Intermediate Microsoft Word, 2-3 pm
- Web Page Front Page, 3-4 pm

NOVEMBER 1

- PowerPoint, 1-2 pm
- Intermediate Microsoft Word, 2-3 pm
- Beginning Microsoft Word, 3-4 pm

Williams a Convincing Crook

"One Hour Photo"
Starring Robin Williams
Connie Nielsen, Eriq LaSalle

By Zach Donaldson

In a role that is a bit of a departure, Robin Williams stars in "One Hour Photo." It's an independent film that would have come in under the radar screen, if it weren't for Williams' presence. Williams has made a career of playing himself ever since "Mork and Mindy," and has made several attempts to break this particular bit of typecasting, such as in "Dead Poet's Society" and "Good Will Hunting."

His problem is that all too often can you see the twinkling-eyed comedic whirlwind lurking just under the surface, and he then comes off as a simply a comedian trying to play it straight. Recently, he starred in "Insomnia" with Al Pacino. Once again, while this was his first real foray into dramatic acting, he just didn't quite jive as a psychotic killer. In "One Hour Photo," however, he has successfully subdued his natural persona. I didn't watch the movie thinking, "That's Robin Williams trying to be serious." I found him creepily believable.

Williams' character, Sy Parrish, works at the photo counter of a department store. He does his job with efficiency and treats his customers with fanatic care. On the surface, he is the perfect employee.

There is one family in which he takes a particular interest, the Yorkins. He is so interested that one entire room of his apartment is covered with pilfered photos of their life.

Parrish obsesses with the family and dreams of being part of the family. It is when he begins to act on his desires, in a seemingly benign way, that things begin to spiral out of control in a parallel fashion, for both Parrish and his adopted family.

Williams is great, playing Parrish as a nut ball in such a sympathetic, convincing way that is more than credible. As his façade begins to crack, you get glimpses that this photo counter clerk isn't the meek, benevolent person that you see at first glance. But if it weren't for the fact that Williams plays his role so well, "One Hour Photo" would eventually have degenerated into a standard stalker film.

As it is, his character comes off as someone who genuinely cares, but who makes a few really, really unwise decisions (which involve a camera and a big hunting knife). Williams is backed up by a supporting cast that is solid and doesn't get in the way of his performance, led by Connie Nielsen as the matriarch of the Yorkin family, and Eriq LaSalle as a police detective.

This movie is in limited release, so it is not at every theater in the area. I had to drive about forty-five minutes to see it. Fortunately, it is worth the trip (that and the self-serve butter-flavored topping). But while it is an excellent movie, it's not one that necessarily needs to be seen on the big screen. 8 out of 10

'Busted' Lacks Direction

"Busted Stuff"
Dave Matthews Band

By Carole Sharwarko

"Busted Stuff," the newest venture by Dave Matthews Band, was shelved to make way for production of "Everyday," the band's last album.

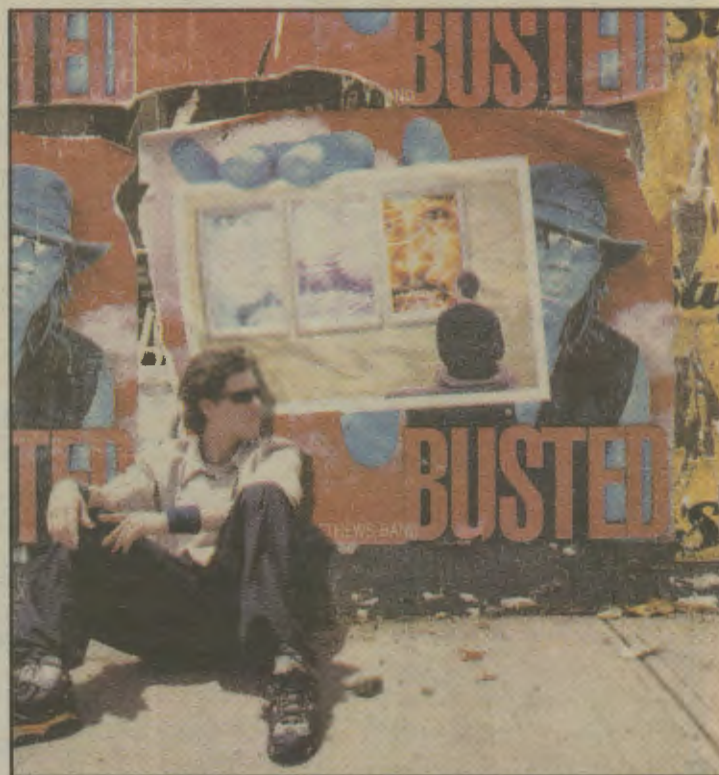
Unfortunately, it seems the band left a few songs unfinished on the new release.

The album begins with a lukewarm start in the album's title track. This cute, swingy intro track would work better if it were a portal to stronger content. "Grey Street," which immediately follows, gives hope for a recurrence of strong songs. It ends up, however, being the most solid piece on the album.

A pensive tune, "Where Are You Going," is the radio single from the album. Though a toe-tapper, the eager Dave Matthews band fan is left waiting for the band to jam out on this one, which never happens. This is a feeling manifested throughout the album.

With a decidedly darker feel than their previous music, this release carries depressing themes. Death and religion are mentioned often, but without adequate lyrical exploration, these topics are left half-painted and float off without impact.

This band is one who never fails to inspire positivity, but has covered heavy issues in the past. "Don't Drink the Water," from the "Before These Crowded Streets" album was a chilling depiction of detribalization and the loss of ancient culture due to "progress." This time, though, the message just doesn't resonate. At least four songs are skeletal. It feels like they have great potential, but should



have been worked on for just a few more weeks. One wonders if the band was rushed to release this album by executives, or if they were anxious to get it off their plate and move on to something else.

With a decidedly darker feel than their previous music, this release carries depressing themes.

"You Never Know," is poorly arranged. The musical and vocal flows are disorganized and hard to listen to. It is one of the few tracks, though, in which Dave Matthews sings from his diaphragm. He is successful on the higher end of the scale, but his deep growls are often what lend passion and drive to the band's songs.

Some successes are interspersed throughout the album, despite its weaknesses. "Raven" is a rousing, convincing tale of loss. It is

an oasis in the middle of the album. "Kit Kat Jam," thankfully, rocks. It is a rolling instrumental showcasing the true musical talent of the band and their cohesion with one another. The album ends with as much heat as it began with "Bartender."

It's hard to see where the musicians in this band were challenged on this album. Their previous releases had such furious and inventive playing; most of the instrumentation on "Busted Stuff" is, frankly, boring, at least for the Dave Matthews Band. Leroi Moore gets in a fair amount of some sexy horns, but Carter Beauford's drums are not as full as he usually likes them. It's difficult to find the brilliance of Boyd Tinsley's violin anywhere.

Possibly some of these songs sat too long stagnant, and came out molded over. Or they were rushed and released prematurely. Overall, this was a disappointing follow-up to the triumphant "Everyday." The fire wasn't hot enough and the result was only cooked up medium-well.

The Phoenix is looking for reporters and an experienced layout designer.

If you would like to learn how to report or write for a newspaper, or you just want to get involved, contact Carole Sharwarko at X5277 or cshar2810@mail.govst.edu.

BROWN AND THE SCHOLARSHIP

I thought for sure I'd get a scholarship.
But when I didn't, Brown was there for me.
I didn't have to give up my dream
of going to college because with
UPS I can get as much as \$23,000
in college financial assistance.
UPS knows how important
a college education is.



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Psychology Student Gains Valuable Insight at Career Convention

By Kim Sanders

In August, members of GSU's Applied Psychology Club had the distinct privilege of attending the 110th annual APA Convention at McCormick Place in Chicago. The Student Life Division at GSU funded the trip. The convention was one of intense information gathering and social interaction with those who work in or teach the field of psychology, or just those who were interested in it.

I discovered important information, such as finding a reliable mentor who will guide me through graduate school. I also learned how to build professional relationships by becoming assertive. Most importantly, however, I discovered the true difference between the PhD degree and the PsyD degree, which helped me in deciding which to pursue.

The first symposium that I attended was titled "Mentoring Early Career Professionals." In this meeting, I learned the importance of finding a dependable mentor. This mentor will be the key to my progressive success and advancement. Having a great mentor allows an

increase in personal growth, gaining foot-in-the-door relationships with others in the field, and general support.

I also learned about non-traditional career paths in psychology. One speaker, Dr. Brian Ragsdale, spoke of alternative careers in clinical psychology. While traditional psychologists focus on correcting maladaptive behavior, non-traditional psychologists focus on implementing acceptable behavior. For example, if a non-traditional industrial psychologist goes to a company whose workers' morale has decreased, he would focus primarily on increasing positive and desired behaviors. The objective is to find out how groups work well together. Non-traditional psychologists focus on functioning individuals.

Each speaker in this symposium agreed that it is critical to have a plan for the future. Knowing what you want to do is the first step to success. It is also important to be passionate and motivated toward your plan. They stressed the importance of being persistent, insisting that it will pay off. Finally, all the members of the panel believed that having

advocates in your corner would improve your chances of success in graduate school. These include mentors, teachers, students with similar interests, and others who may aid in your success.

Finally, I attended several symposiums outlining the similarities and differences between the two types of doctorate degrees offered in the field of psychology: the PhD and the PsyD. I was one of many students who wondered which degree was the best to pursue. The truth is, one is not better than another. It depends solely on the individual goal of the student. Regardless of which degree the student chooses, he would be eligible to practice as a licensed psychologist.

The PhD degree is a researched based degree. Training includes, but is not limited to, exhaustive research. It is the traditional psychology doctorate degree.

The PsyD degree is a fairly new psychology degree that is more comprehensive in scope. It includes the biological, social and cognitive aspects of psychology.

After attending this convention, I realized



Photo by Robert Wysocki

Kim Sanders is the vice president of GSU's Applied Psychology Club

the importance of attending events such as this. It heightened my awareness of many options available to me in pursuing a degree in psychology. The president of the applied psychology club and all its officials agree that we will be going on more field trips in the future.

Higher Fees Do Not Always Equate to Better Supplies or Services

By Carole Sharwarko

Have you ever heard of secret shoppers? They work for corporations touring businesses, investigating the quality level of the product and service they receive. They later produce reports about their experiences and submit them to the corporate office, which forwards them to the specific location to let them know how they fared. Of course, the reason they're called "secret shoppers" is because they go to the store or restaurant just as any old customer. The place has no idea who they are or what they're doing – until after the work is over.

Consider me your very own secret shopper.

After working in the GSU computer lab on a recent Thursday evening, I sent some items to the printer. It was shortly before 7:30 p.m. classes, so the place was alive with activity. Many students were

waiting at the two printers for their material. Oftentimes, recently, the lab has been very crowded. I've had to wait for a station a couple of times.

My papers came rolling out and I grabbed them, glancing at the top piece to make sure it was mine. I noticed that the ink was badly faded in the center of the page. Thankfully, I was only printing out something for myself and didn't need to hand the printout to an instructor in five minutes, as I'm sure many of the students there were planning to do.

I turned and commented to the attendant, who reclined in his chair with his feet on the desk and hands behind his head, "I think you guys might need to shake up the toner."

He responded to me by rolling his eyes, looking at his fingernails and saying after a loud sigh, "It's the last toner and there's something wrong with it. We shook it, but that's how the stuff is coming out."

Sympathetic to the plight of the working stiff and the students who must have been complaining to these guys all night, I replied, "Wow, they should get you guys some more toner up here, huh?"

It was then another lab attendant, sitting further toward the back, piped up. "Well, you could always go to the library and print stuff out at ten cents a page," he said, following his remark with a snide look. Now, this doesn't sound that bad, but it was the way he said it to me, you know?

I explained to him that I didn't mean what I'd said in a bad way. Only that, since this is, gee, a computer lab, it would make sense that they would have more than one toner cartridge on hand. And since this is, gee, the only computer lab on campus and the twin printers get a lot of traffic, it would make even more sense that someone would see to it staying well stocked.

Walking out of the doors aggravated, I felt some renewed resolve when I remembered that I am the editor-in-chief of the student newspaper. Instead of just stewing over it all night, I decided to put my energies toward my column. And possibly I could work toward changing things, instead of just complaining about them. I walked back in and asked the Master of the Toner and All That Prints Good his name.

"Joe Kearns," he replied. I apologize if I'm not spelling his name right. I don't even know if that really is his name, or if he was lying. I also asked his manager's name, which he gave to me. At that point, another gallant lab user looked up from his typing to come to my defense. He made a comment that, as students, we pay tuition and fees. Therefore, nothing in the computer lab is truly free, including the attendant's pay.

Possibly now that they've increased student fees and tuition, they can afford to keep some ink on our pages and more polite (or at least less impolite) workers in the computer lab. It seems unfair that in a place that should be welcome students, there is a situation such as this.

I am lucky to have a home computer, not having to rely solely on those provided on campus. But I know some students who aren't so fortunate. They must type and print everything at school. If they had a paper due that evening, they may have failed the assignment, as many professors would not have accepted such faded printouts.

A university should accommodate, not complicate. It should educate, not exacerbate. The employees, regardless of how menial their job, should help students learn, not hinder their progress with mean-spirited comments and inactivity.

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